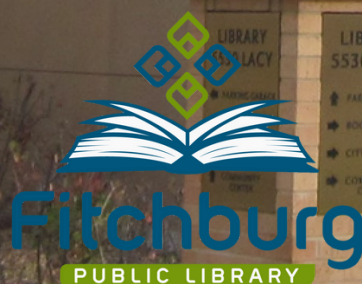


2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

2022 by-the-numbers



1,136

New Patron
Registrations



135,097

Library
Website
Visits



10,856

Items
Added



306,663

Items
Circulated



237,191

Library
Visits

350,113

WiFi
Sessions



110,612
Collection
Size



56,316

OverDrive
Checkouts

540

Meeting Room
Reservations



5,836
Computer
Sessions



COLLECTION

The Library continued to grow and expand its collection of materials for patrons. A total of 10,969 new items were added to the collection in 2022. All items are selected by Adult and Youth Services librarians and processed by the Technical Services department. The overall collection size is approximately 110,612 items including books, magazines, music CDs, DVDs, video games, Kindles, Rokus, laptops, and power chargers.

We maintain the collection through a deselection (or weeding) process. Materials are deselected for a variety of reasons, including poor condition or lack of circulation. We do this on a regular basis to free up space for new items, as well as those in higher demand.

STAFFING

In 2022, the Library welcomed six new shelvees - Lana Beck, Lois Buckingham, Kat Dugan, Kate Myers, Joely Pringle, and Shreepriya Sengupta.

In March, Karen Ward was promoted from Shelvee to Library Assistant I in Access Services and Minda Maurer was hired as the new Outreach Librarian.

Over the summer, Hannah Boisen and Hailey Ruff were hired as Summer Outreach Assistants. This position was funded by the Friends of the Fitchburg Library.

In August, Rachel Holtan was promoted to Library Assistant III in Access Services and Sara Hendrickson was promoted to Library Assistant II in Adult Services.

In the fall, Jax Seiler and Haylee Wheelwright joined the Library as Library Assistant I's in Access Services and Christine Virnig was hired as a Library Assistant II in Youth Services.



Christine



Hailey



Hannah



Haylee



Jax



Joely



Karen



Kat



Kate



Lana



Lois



Minda



Rachel



Sara



Shreepriya

SERVICE

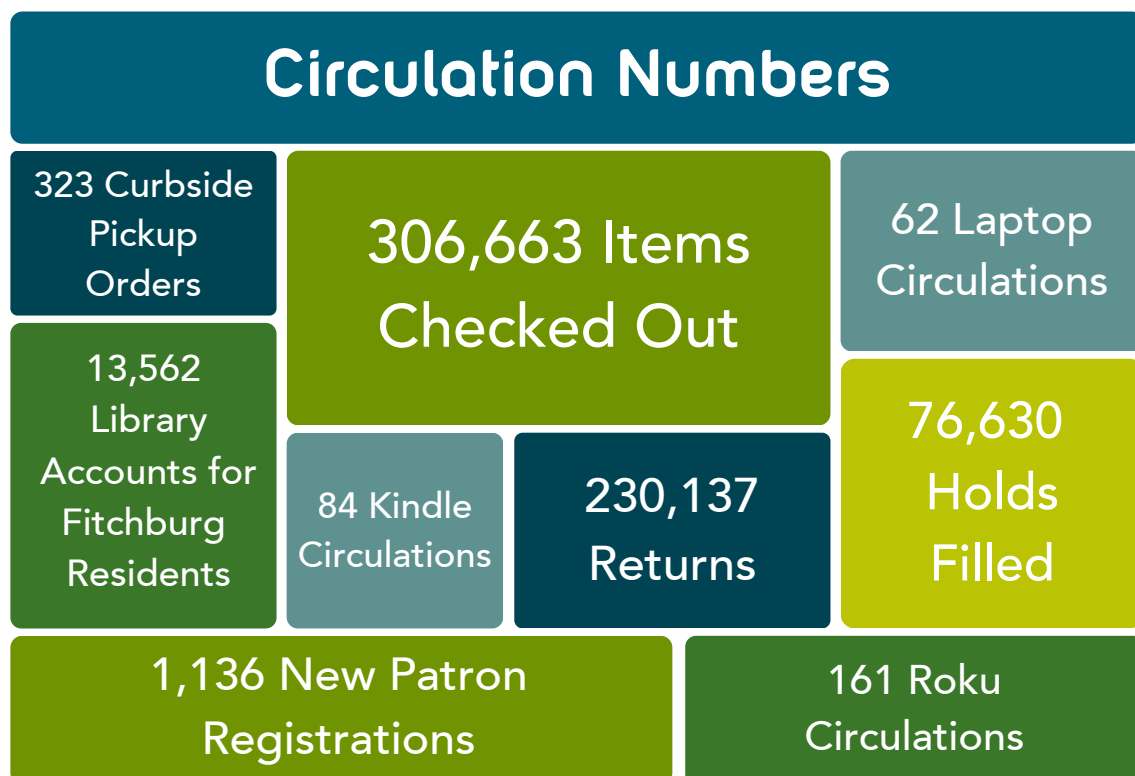
Circulation

2022 was our first full year back at our normal operating hours, and it is good to be back! Our circulation numbers increased quite a bit from 2021, with items checked out increasing nearly 30% in 2022. We checked out 306,663 items in 2022, with 76,630 of those items being specifically requested through our holds system.

Card registration was also up. In 2022, we registered 1,136 new accounts at the Fitchburg Public Library, which is higher than we have done in many years. We are still the seventh busiest Library in the South Central Library System, and we are happy to see our usage continue to increase.

Our curbside services have understandably trailed off with the building fully open to the public for all of 2022, but we're happy to continue to offer curbside pickup to the patrons that request the service.

We had a lot of staffing changes in 2022. We are very thankful to have seen the pay rates for our Library Shelves increase significantly in 2022; going from \$9.25 to \$13, with a planned increase to \$15 in 2023. Overall, we had fourteen new hires and three promotions in 2022, and we are looking forward to a strong 2023!



SERVICE

Programming

2022 marked the return of in-person programming since the beginning of the pandemic!

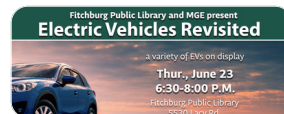
Adult Services

In 2022, Adult Services hosted three book clubs throughout the year. The groups read books ranging from popular fiction and non-fiction to graphic novels and teen books. In addition to book clubs, Adult Services held craft programs, the Great Decisions Foreign Policy discussion group, an electric vehicle car show, and an author visit from Ruslana Westerlund, where she discussed the war in Ukraine.

The Fitchburg Public Library also participated in the Beyond the Page-Ripple Project, which brings racial equity focused programs to the community. We hosted Speaking with Music presented by Neng Now. He discussed the Hmong language and its relation to music.

Youth Services

Beginning in March 2022, Youth Services hosted 188 in-person programs with 5,286 attendees, ranging from storytimes and craft programs to drum circles and music shows. Some of the highlights were programs from Havens Petting Farm, Great Scott's Magic Show, Dane County Trash Lab, and Mr. Steve's Music and Comedy Show. Youth Services also hosted 16 in-person teen programs with 33 attendees and created 12 self-directed activities with 228 participants. Teen programs included tie-dye summer reading totes, a Halloween party, bookmark making, and black out poetry.



SERVICE

Prior to resuming in-person programming, Youth Services created 21 virtual programs with 988 views from our Facebook page and 39 take-home crafts (2,400 bags).

Outreach

Outreach Services hosted 49 programs with 2,827 attendees in 2022! Outreach Librarian, Minda Maurer, attended community events such as Fun in the Park: Welcome to Fitchburg, Celebrate the Season, Back to School Night at Stoner Prairie, and the Leopold School Community Walk. She also facilitated an evening book club.

Over the summer, Outreach organized Pop-Up Library programs. Minda, along with two Summer Outreach Assistants and the Friends of the Fitchburg Library volunteers, visited three parks weekly for nine weeks. Park locations included Southdale, Huegel Jamestown, and Aldo Leopold.

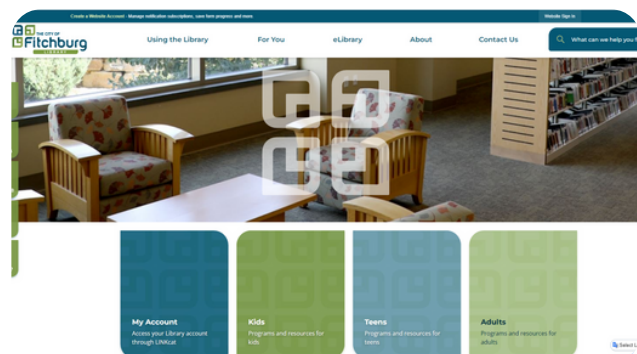


Electronic Services

Wi-Fi access was heavily used in 2022! 350,113 total connections were made throughout the year, which is an increase of over 100,000 from 2021. OverDrive checkouts held fairly steady with total 56,316 checkouts. Library website visits totaled 135,097 in 2022. There was significant in-person computer use, with 5,836 sessions. The Library also facilitated 540 meeting room reservations.

New Services

Working with the City IT Department as part of the city-wide website refresh project, our newly updated and redesigned website launched in August 2022. This new redesign includes responsive content so it is now mobile friendly, has a more modern design, and improved usability!



SPECIAL EVENTS

Summer Reading Program

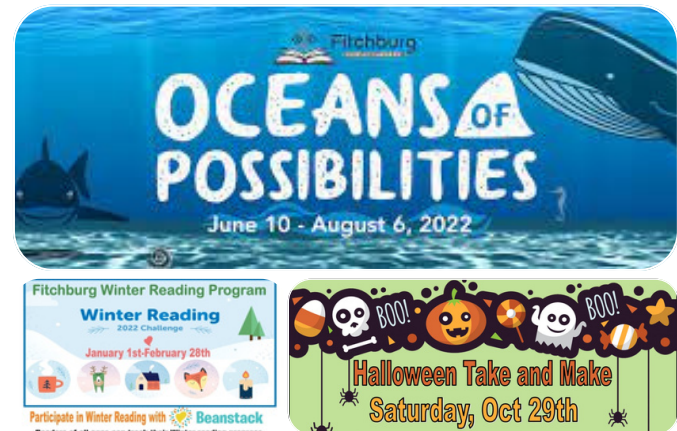
Once again, the Summer Reading Program was so much fun! This year's theme was "Oceans of Possibilities". 638 people (117 adults, 59 teens, and 462 children) registered for the program. Youth were able to earn coupons for the Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream Company, Eugster's Farm Market & Petting Farm, Schuster's Farm, Pizza Hut, the Milwaukee Public Museum, the Madison Mallards, and the Dane County Fair. All participants who completed the program were entered into a raffle drawing. Three lucky youth participants won Nintendo Switch Lites and two adult participants won Kindles!

Halloween Take and Make Activity Bags

For Halloween this year, Youth Services staff created take and make activity bags! 200 patrons stopped by the Library and picked up a Halloween themed activity bag for youth ages 2-5 years old or 6-12 years old.

Winter Reading Program

98 kids registered for our Winter Reading Bingo program. Three participants received gift cards for Target and Noble Knight Games!



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Tegan Karow, Adult and Technical Services Manager, attended the 2022 Public Library Association Conference in Portland, Oregon. The conference offers over 100 educational sessions, which are curated by public libraries for public libraries. The conference is an opportunity for librarians to come together to share ideas and learn from one another!



STRATEGIC PLANNING

New Print System

In January 2022, we installed our new TBS print system! This new system is a pay-to-print model so patrons now have more control over their print jobs, as well as increased privacy for printing. The new system also includes mobile printing, which allows patrons to print from their own devices from home or in the Library.



New Display Shelving

In early 2022, new display shelving was installed on the first floor of the Library. The new shelves allow us to display materials more prominently, showcase new titles, and improve the browsing experience. The project was supported by the Friends of the Fitchburg Library.

